

\*\*\*\*\*

JANUARY 1976

# MORALE BOOSTER



THERE IS NOTHING LIKE THE FUTURE

\*\*\*\*\*

# MORALE BOOSTER

the official organ of

UNITED FOR OUR EXPANDED SPACE PROGRAMS

VOLUME III NUMBER 2

JANUARY 1976

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Article</u>	<u>Page</u>
If World War III Stays Nuclear Free We'll Get To The Moon Just Fine (part two)	2
Progress Is Our Most Important Product	5
Stimulus/Response: March 28, 1976	7
Treasurer's Report	9
Editorial and National Offices P.O. Box 7807 San Diego, California 92107	
Antares Chamber P.O. Box 27236 San Francisco, California 94127	
Far Centaurus Chamber P.O. Box 137 Clayton, Victoria Australia 3168	

Copyright © 1976 United For Our Expanded Space Programs

No part of this issue may be reproduced by any mechanical, photographic, or electronic process, or otherwise copied for public or private use without due acknowledgement to the magazine MORALE BOOSTER and U.F.O.E.S.P.

*If World War III Stays Nuclear Free,*  
*We'll Get To The Moon Just Fine.* \* \* \* \* \*

There is a natural reluctance on the part of the ordinary citizen to take the lead in analysis and understanding of international relations. The complexities of daily living, no matter how mundane the existence, seem trouble enough to understand, let alone master, for the majority of the population for any need to turn to abstruse questions such as foreign policy for stimulation to grow within them. "Leave it to the experts!" they cry and so the experts do their best to have "it" all left to them. Yet the vital information, if the need arises, can be easily obtained. It is true that the national leaders of the world community do their best to operate in privacy. Nonetheless, they are not phantoms and it is necessary for the exercise of their power for them to communicate with each other. In addition, they must use their national resources (primarily their humans) to exercise and further their schemes. All this requires open manipulation of the contents and instruments of communication. Official statements are made. Press conferences are given. Acts of Parliament, Congress, Soviet, etc are passed. Laws are signed. Stories are leaked. We must not overlook the investigative efforts of the communication institutions themselves. Consequently, all the information needed to compile an accurate record of the movements and intentions of the leaders of men is available to the curious mind. Once the accurate record is constructed the analysis and prediction of events can begin.

To say the information is at hand is not to say that it can be collected at the wave of a hand. The leaders of men, seeking to communicate with each other and to manipulate their national resources while seeking privacy at the same time, dispense their knowledge, purposes, plans slowly and often indirectly. They try not to concentrate their gifts of knowledge. A dropped remark here, a secret revealed there, a long but ambiguous threat delivered are the mannerisms of diplomacy. A certain ambivalence marks the relationship of the leaders of men with the communications media. There is mistrust, pursuit, coquetry, naivete. Scandals erupt, war maneuvers are discovered, political friendships sweeten or sour. The final result of the stewing of these ingredients is the expression, only partly suppressed, of cyclic co-operation and antagonism between the leaders of men and the agents of the communications industry.

Where does the search begin? It begins at the nearest resource center, perhaps one's own home. What sources does one seek? A more difficult question because no source is adequate. It is more than a matter of innate personal bias; the issue extends to deceit of a purposeful, premeditated nature. So, one consults all the sources initially and selects a medium number of them to serve as a representative sample of the informational channels open to the population. One might select four or five newspapers, three or four magazines, a specialist journal or two. Then one begins the methodical task of "following the news". It is a crooked path.

The story you are about to hear is based upon large amounts of topical material studied over dozens of months from Time, Newsweek, the Los Angeles Times, the New York Times, Foreign Affairs, Jerusalem Post, the Christian Science Monitor, the Manchester Guardian, the Times of London, the Melbourne Age, the Australian, and the Observer. Additional material was gleaned from numerous books and monographs of which the following might be named: How Israel Lost Its Soul by M. Ghilan, The Struggle for the Middle East by W. Laqueur, Political Murder in Northern Ireland by M. Dillon and D. Lehane, Agony at Easter by T. Coffey, On Thermonuclear War by



H. Kahn, Nuclear Threat in the Middle East by R. Pranger and D. Tahtinen, The Guns of August by B. Tuchman, and The Great Terror by R. Conquest.

April 1975 was hot around the world. Today the world is hotter still. April 1975 was the beginning of the Lebanese Civil War. Today that conflict kills hundreds every rotation of Earth. In April last year, the Angolan liberation factions skirmished with each other. Today, though a civil war seems to have ended with the defeat of one grouping, 12,000 Cuban troops man the barricades for the dominant liberation army. The collapse of the Sinai talks last spring has been counteracted by the successful negotiations recently completed. Yet the Occupied Territories of Israel seethe with unrest now and China, Russia's bitter enemy, begins to fuel the Egyptian war machine. An American colonel was kidnapped in April to be quickly released. Not only was this feat repeated in the fall of 1975 when two American officials of the USIA were kidnapped to disappear for months but Christmas Eve in New York City was highlighted by the spectacular bombing of La Guardia Airport in which 11 people perished. This catalogue, barely begun and already tedious, represents not the most intense strife of World War III but rather indicates some random glimpses of the battlefields. A planet-wide war is fairly unconfined. It generates details and facts faster than they can be sorted, let alone understood.

Any war, no matter how large, has its quiet moments. When the conflict is one occurring informally, these quiet moments can be misunderstood as moments of peace. When the conflict is also removed from the Central Powers (United States, Soviet Union, Japan, China) and only involves the Western Powers (England, France, Spain, Ireland, Greece, Germany, etc) in a process of social dissolution extending over some years, then it is readily thought that the fighting on the home front is simply increased agitation due to causes idiosyncratic to the nation in question. War, even if it is not total war, is a frightening prospect, even to those who already relish violence. This was not always true but that is another story which needn't detour us now. The violence is understood as a necessary evil and the necessity of the violence outweighs the evil. The conflict, thus, is disguised by its participants so that the necessity of war be greater exercised.

Where is the war fought? It is waged in the Northern Hemisphere, it rages in the Southern. It is fought on all the continents but two (Antarctica, Australia) and involves nearly every sphere of human activity: politics, economics, diplomacy, social policies, etc. There are three major centers of conflict, four secondary centers of strife, and many minor regions and states consumed by armed struggle. The three major centers of WWII are Europe, the Middle East, and South-Central Africa. The four secondary centers for WWII are China, Russia, America, and India. The final group consists of conflict spread in a very diverse fashion: it consists of the Caribbean (Cuba, Jamaica, Puerto Rico), Brazil, Argentina, Ethiopia and Somalia, West Africa (Western Sahara, Morocco, Mauritania, Algeria), the Phillipine Republic, and odds and ends of hostility in the Pacific, Eastern Europe, and the Persian Gulf. Of the major centers, the Middle East is the most potent with the presence of independent (i.e., not under the control of the Great Powers) nuclear weapons. Algeria, Libya, Saudi Arabia, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Egypt, Iraq, and the Palestine liberation armies seethe with hostility towards one another, regardless of allies. There is the added element of the interaction with the conflicts of the secondary centers and portions of the minor centers. The South-Central African Front has generated the most excitement in recent months. Involving the Union of South Africa, Angola, Zaire, Zambia, Mozambique,

Namibia, Botswana, Rhodesia as well as Cuba, America, and Russia, this front has seen the most fluid action. At the moment, battle has subsided following the apparent resolution of the Angolan Civil War. There is constant speculation, however, in the world press that a new campaign will soon begin in the Rhodesian-Mozambique sector. The final major center of WWII is perhaps the most distressing. The European Front is characterized by societies facing social collapse through increasing internal terror. England, Spain, Portugal, Ireland, Greece, Cyprus, Turkey are re-enacting much of the social turmoil of the 1920s and 1930s that characterized their relations. There are economic tensions which are taking increasingly political turns in development (such as that between Iceland and England over cod fishing or France and Italy over wine importation policies). Dismaying in its own right, the situation takes alarming dimensions when one considers the connections between this arena of conflict and the South-Central Africa Front and the Middle East major center. Altogether it can be seen, from even as quick an overview as this, that the number and diversity of nations, regions or factors interacting directly with one another justify, at least metaphorically, the declaration of WWII.

Since the purpose of this essay is illumination of the background the international community provides for the Space Revolution rather than a complete exposition of the evidence and theory for World War III, we will not chronicle all the major incidents, maneuvers, and campaigns of the first year of the war. Indeed, we will attempt to keep such documentation within the bounds of illustration. The death of Franco in the first three weeks of November (we do not pick a single day for he died slowly) has added an unstable regime to the shaky cast acting out the current European drama of social disintegration. There is increasingly strong separatist feeling in many regions of Spain. A great wave of strikes is hitting the breastworks of the Spanish economy. The government seeks to liberalize in a methodical and calm manner. But the death of the dictator has generated impatience. The nation had waited for the man to die out of respect for his personal despotism; now that he no longer gives command in this world, his countrymen are eager to try less rigid ways. There are deaths in Spain from riots and assassinations. Her neighbors are uneasy with the thought of another Spanish Civil War. And so it goes. Each aspect only leads to another development of the same disorganizing nature.

The space enthusiast does not find comfort in this knowledge. It is not to the benefit of the Space Revolution for such national treasure to go to war. It does not excite the imagination of the space enthusiast to pursue the details of the global conflict. Yet the spacer does wish to witness new wonders of space and so he or she is inclined to seek ways to strengthen the reality of the Great Space Dream. The war is studied only to the extent necessary for the general trends of the conflict to appear. The intimate parts America and Russia, the primary space powers, play in the world upheaval make it imperative to understand the war enough to be able to undertake some meaningful action to keep some commitment as a nation to the exploration of space. It is clear that the war is so dense in its levels that spacers' efforts should be confined to intensifying the current space program. To seek to create a better climate for space projects by turning energy to ameliorating the war's effects or dampening its level of violence would be to pour energy into a black hole.

The space enthusiast's perspective must be one of expediency. The beginning of WWII has introduced many factors which work against the realization of expansion of space efforts. True enough, the world's great wealth, compared to ages past, makes it possible for world war and great space projects to be conducted at the same time. Nonetheless, the ability of the war industries to accept ever larger demands without dislocation

cannot be matched by any other sector of the economy. We cannot hope to check this beast. But we can be part of the set of constraining influences which seek to prevent the war from being the sole focus of society. We are progressive forces and therefore should strengthen our organization and our resource base. The space enthusiast and his organizations exert steady attraction on other progressive alignments. With each additional person or group committed to the struggle to expand into space, the attraction of the total mass increases. We have known this since Einstein's early days. It remains to exploit the sociological implications of his gravitational theory for spacer purposes.

(to be continued)

\* \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \*

\* -----Progress Is Our Most Important Product----- \*

\* \* \* \* \*

\* \* \* \* \*

The year is new and our major projects come closer to fruition. Though the Far Centaurus Mission disrupted some preparation schedules, surprisingly steady advancement towards their culmination has been characteristic of the past weeks. It would be useful to review the state of the preparations for the delegation to Midamericon and for the convocation CHRYSE-1.

For the moment the size of the delegation to the 34th World Science Fiction Convention is three persons. The final composition of the group has not been determined and it is expected that it will not be determined for many months. However, the organization has procured not only three attending memberships to Midamericon but also has reserved a room for three. It is hoped that we will obtain a room in the central hotel for the convention but we sent our reservation only recently and so may have to settle for something else. However, all the convention hotels for Midamericon are located within a block of one another. We intend to reserve a table in the hucksters' room where we will display for sale (and discussion) our literature, doorstickers, Morale Booster, and whatever else we can devise. It is hoped that we can also present a series of three public lectures at the convention. The official membership of Midamericon now totals over 3,000 and it is expected that as many as 7,000 will attend. As we have reported in the past, Robert Heinlein, considered the foremost science fiction author in the world today by a great many critics and fans, will be the guest of honor. This will be the third time he will have been the guest of honor for a world convention. It is impossible to foretell the success our delegation will achieve. But given the progress we have made to date at public presentation of ourselves, it would not be unexpected for us to do very well. We might gain as many as 50, 60, 70 members as well as making much money on the literature, etc for sale. We must do everything we can to insure the success of the Midamericon delegation. Since its final composition is not known, the Board of Governors encourages all active members who think they would like or could be a delegate to the convention to contact the Board immediately. There will be significant expenses related to printing the material for the convention so the Board also encourages any member, active or passive, who would like or could donate funds to defray these costs to contact us immediately. Energy is equal to mass and the influence we obtain with our projects equals the resources we put into them. The Treasurer says that she wants to go as she is electrified by



by the liklihood that those thousands which come to honor Heinlein will be enthusiastic and willing to spend money for something. Why not United For Our Expanded Space Programs?

As discussions with other space groups have continued (see this month's "Stimulus/Response"), it has become clear that U.F.O.E.S.P. must take a leading role in the creation of the national space conference, CHRYSE-1. We have been encouraged by the continuing revelation of other, different organizations working for the general cause for which we work too. There is and will be diversity among these groups but we should not be worried. The Space Revolution needs ferment to develop its concepts and practices and intermediate goals. The International Committee For A New Planet (in San Francisco), the Society of Free Space Colonizers (Seattle based), the United Futurist Association (headquartered in San Diego), and, naturally, United For Our Expanded Space Programs (offices in Australia, San Diego, and San Francisco) are space groups of which we have spoken in the past. Recently we have learned of two others and it is our hope that they are only the first individuals of a crowd of new arrivals to the revolution. Laurraine Tutihasi brought the Board's attention to the Space Now Society, whose goals are so close to ours as to be identical. The Board learned of the L-5 Society when it examined the April issue's advertising section of the Magazine of Fantasy and Science Fiction. With Space Now in Walnut Creek, east of San Francisco, and L-5 headquartered in Tucson, we can see some boundaries on the location problem for the conference. In a later issue of MB a list of all the groups known at that time with their addresses will be printed. In the meantime, we have written to these groups and have provided them with literature and copies of the November MB. At some future time we will struggle with these groups for influence over the Space Revolution. Now we must practice unity so that each group can survey the resources and prospects of the Revolution. This political talk seems grandiose and misplaced. Yet to turn this nation to the stars is an exquisitely political problem. Six organizations directed to space are known. We must learn of as many other groups as we can. Each member should make note of any clubs, associations, societies, groups, etc of which he or she learns. This information should be communicated to the Board as soon as it is gained. In addition, each member should make note of any conferences, speeches, lectures, workshops, etc devoted to space or space-related realities of which he or she learns and communicate this information rapidly to the Board. Whether we can document it or not, each day brings a greater interest and focus to space by the world community. We are not the first to see the importance of other worlds. For most of this century, serious men and women have given great thought to the same ends as we desire. To hold CHRYSE-1 in San Francisco with twenty delegations and five or six odd delegates attending would be a great leap forward whether the program was followed or maintained or not. If CHRYSE could not only be held with a large attendance but also seriously examine the issues before it, its effect would be incalculable. We hope that representatives of other organizations will participate in the formulation of the conference. But we should be prepared to do most of it ourselves if the administrative details interest no one else. This is an important project, as foolish as it may sound.

In an effort to conserve resources and to maximize their effect, the Board has created an advertisement to be placed in the fifth Progress Report for Midamericon in which CHRYSE-1 is prominently mentioned as a project underway by U.F.O.E.S.P. We hope to follow this advertisement with a larger one in the Program Book for the convention (which book will be hardcover, 8 1/2 inch by 11 inch size and close to two hundred pages long). This second ad is seen at this stage as one concentrating on basic information about the organization (projects, products, membership, past work)

with particular emphasis upon CHRYSE and the Midamericon delegation. History is not possible without action. We cannot do as much as we would like to do so we concentrate on a few major efforts to bring a new consciousness about space to the body politic. Other space groups and fans of this technological age's literature are the most potent sources of new energy for our work open to penetration by us now. The specialized audiences we propagandize now will provide the firm basis for proselytization of the general populace we seek for the future.

Soon the May issue of Fantasy & Science Fiction will be distributed. In it will be an advertisement for doorstickers. With each order we receive, we will send literature about U.F.O.E.S.P. in the hope that our membership can increase for Midamericon and beyond. This year will in many respects determine the nature of the organization for much time to come. We must make every effort to build a broad and deep membership. The progress we have made in our year and one half of life is a pleasure but it will have little meaning if we do not increase our effect in the next eighteen months. The cumulative nature of the effects of our efforts will only be significant with prolonged and consistent implementation of an activist policy. We grow by continuing to make noises to be known.

ΦΦΦ  
 Φ Stimulus/Response: March 28, 1976 Φ  
 ΦΦΦ

"I received [the October] Morale Booster and was very impressed. It was very well written. The President should give himself credit in the publication!" Suzanne Paulsrude, 2407 Malad St., Boise, ID 83705./ Morale Booster is not a lengthy publication but it does require a major portion of the labor demands of the organization. I take this opportunity to deliver a message oft given in these pages. More important than the question "How much have we achieved?" is the question "How much can we accomplish?". A primary project for U.F.O.E.S.P. is the national space conference. The major premise of CHRYSE-1 is the catalytic effect such a gathering would have upon the course of the Space Revolution. Unity of action, though not also of purpose, is the driving idea of the first convocation of space enthusiasts. The unity sought of groups through such events as CHRYSE-1 is also sought within any organization. In the final analysis, the influence any idea exerts upon the evolution of society is a direct, positive function of the separate individuals' (holding the idea) initiative and passion for the idea. Now it's the old pitch. The Board dearly wishes the participation of every member in the direct work of U.F.O.E.S.P. This desire is particularly strong with respect to Morale Booster. As the direct voice of the membership and its officers, the magazine should be an open channel to all with messages, ideas, criticisms, visions, etc of space and the part we play in the Space Revolution. For some of you, to step forward to join any group at all working for the space experience is a bold act. The importance of each member's potential for the organization is not diminished, however, by this consideration. Just as there is enough Universe for us all beyond Earth's atmosphere, so is there enough room in MB for the creativity of every member. Consequently, the President does take credit for his part in the production of Morale Booster but he would be more enthused over the project if others could step forward to take some credit themselves. Any single voice, no matter the beauty of the speech or deliverance, begins to sound shrill eventually.

"I just read my first issue of Morale Booster (October 1975) and it did what its title indicates is its purpose. First, I am glad to learn



about the group's lobbying activities and goals. As a member of another lobby group, Common Cause, I know such activities need much money as well [as] dedicated workers. I am enclosing a cheque for \$10.01 to convert my membership to an active status. The least, and right now unfortunately the most, I can do for the group is give it my full financial support. I do, however, have some information and suggestions. I came across the enclosed ad [of the Space Now Society] in Astronomy magazine. The society seems to be working toward the same goals. I suggest investigating the possibility of joining forces. I also think that magazines such as Astronomy would be good places to advertise." R. Laurraine Tutihasi, 18 Candlewood Drive, Pittsford, NY 14534./ It is always a pleasure when one of the passive members decides to become more committed to the work the organization has undertaken. This pleasure is enhanced when the act of 'conversion', shall we say, is accompanied by definite action. The advertisement is intriguing and I quote it in full. "Space Now! To expand and accelerate the nation's space program. These are the ends towards which we apply our strength. Join us. Become part of the force that moves man into space. Annual membership \$10.00. For information send S.A.S.E. to: Space Now Society, 1601 North Main St., Suite 203, Walnut Creek, CA 94596." As mentioned in this month's "Progress. . .", we have written to this group with information about ourselves and questions about them. The simple act of sending a copy of this advertisement to the Board enabled the Board to contact another enclave of space enthusiasts. There are a multitude of such small feats possible for any member to make. Writing letters to the Board provides material for MB to make it a livelier journal. Answering the telephone "Space is the place", though peculiar to do at first after years of "Hello" or some such phrase, spreads awareness of the Void to the body politic. Newspaper clippings of space events are especially useful as these events are, when all is said and done, what boosting a spacer's morale is all about. The Board is not rigid about the ways in which the membership can aid the organization's work. Your points, Laurraine, about advertising are well taken. The Board attempts to advertise as much as the budget will allow. Unfortunately, we have not had the resources we would like to devote to publicity. However, it is through publicity that we will expand in the awareness of the population. As the organization becomes financially stronger, the Board will devote more money to publicity, especially in such places as you mention.

"Answer all questions. . .about UFOESP--did you attend the New Zealand space meeting? What is the reception of UFOESP in Australia? . . .We saw a rocket go off at Vandenburg two weeks ago--spectacular. . .! We've been getting up at 4 a.m. to look at a comet (Hall's) in the eastern sky falling, or rather, tripping through the heavens. We are all tripping through the heavens. . .Here's to space!!!" Jes Hinrichs, 750 Stratford Drive, Encinitas, CA 92024./ We were not aware of the New Zealand space conference when we were in Australia and are only aware of it now due to your efforts. Can you tell us more? How did you hear of it? The response to U.F.O.E.S.P. overseas was muted but that was to be expected as we did not engage in much discussion with anyone about the organization. This might seem a peculiar manner in which to establish a presence in any locality but this first mission was only a preliminary one to survey the area. We saw the rocket you mention and it did give a thrill to imagine it was a liner on the way to Mars. We trust your current comet viewing is better than your Kahoutek watching. And we are tripping through space, all of us. Earth is one of billions of cosmic objects and we should never forget that there is no opposition between space and Earth. Each is a logical and nat-

ural extension of the other. We must beware thinking that we must oppose Earth when we support space simply because the antagonists of the space program (expanded or no) oppose space when they support Earth. This planet is the first human 'star base' and will remain the primary one for scores of years to come. We integrate the wasted globe into the space programs of the future; we build to the stars using its debris. Here's to space!

\$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ TREASURER'S REPORT \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$ \$

Rather than give a detailed accounting of the ins and outs of the finances of U.F.O.E.S.P., I intend to give a brief resume of our current status and what is in view for the near future. Anyone so interested may contact national headquarters and request a copy of the pages from the ledger for the first year of operation. In a past issue of Morale Booster the President has given a recapitulation of the general flow of monies. It is now time to look at today and the future.

We currently have \$75.16 in the treasury. Expenses which are coming in the near future include printing costs for two Morale Boosters (approximately \$23 each) and one advertisement for Progress Report #5 for the 34th World Science Fiction Convention in Kansas City (a one-column ad is \$20). As you can see by some quick addition, we have already come perilously close to the end of the treasury with these expenses. There are also several copyrights yet to acquire at a cost of \$6 per item. It can be said with great certainty that there is always an expense around the corner which can be considered important.

Income is a bit shakier. We have hopes that the members who became part of U.F.O.E.S.P. in 1975 will send in their renewal fees in 1976. The income from these monies, scattered over the next few months might total \$50 to \$75. We have an advertisement placed in the upcoming issue of Fantasy and Science Fiction for selling doorstickers. The response to this will hopefully bring not only purchases of the sticker itself but also a new member or several from the literature which accompanies the sticker. The later future, several months in advance, will hopefully bring income from new members brought by our efforts in connection with Midamericon. It would be fairly accurate to speculate, however, that for the next few months most of the income for U.F.O.E.S.P. will come through donations. In the past this has meant that the Treasurer, the President, the General Secretary of Antares Chamber, and the Assistant President for Inter-organizational Affairs have all contributed large and small amounts of money to help keep the organization running. We could use much more. If we don't get some more outside assistance, the personal funds of the Board of Governors will quickly deplete and we will find ourselves penniless. Hopefully all you current members will send in your fees and get in return your validation sticker for the next year. That will bring us some operating funds; enough to get us through to Midamericon. So far the organization has paid for the 3 membership tickets and the first night of lodging for the 3 attendees at Kansas City. There is yet a pamphlet to produce, not to mention Morale Boosters for February, March, April, etc.

I hear the President speak more than anyone else, and often hear his plea for more activist members for U.F.O.E.S.P. In my way I attempt to contribute my time, energy, and money to the organization. But we cannot continue to work in this narrow way. We need assistance from you out there. Not only money, but articles for Morale Booster, volunteer time for mailings, post office box responsibility, etc. You can help!

As you can see, the Treasury is in the usual nebulous state. We need money, we get money, we spend money. But the Treasury does not, in my mind, consist of only money matters. We have other Treasure for which I, as Treasurer, feel responsibility and about which I shall now report.

This issue of Morale Booster is Number 14. That means that we now have 14 separate issues with different stories and articles. We also have three Petitions to Congress; plus the advertisement for Aussiecon; plus the doorstickers; plus numerous letters in and out; plus some photographs. You see, we have quite a large assortment of Treasure. But even greater than the material Treasure is the vast store of treasure in each of us. Recently the President and Treasurer went to Australia and Far Centaurus Chamber is the result of that sojourn. We build slowly, but we build.

Midamericon is only a few months away. It represents an opportunity for the organization which, if exploited completely, could put U.F.O.E.S.P. among the stars. We are working very hard to make Midamericon a success for the furtherance of our goals. The President and I are currently exploring the possibility of our attending. We have approached one of our members from the East Coast to see if she is interested in being the 3rd delegate. We have written an ad to insert in the Progress Report which will come out in June or July. And we intend to write another ad for the program book itself--said to be one of the finest ever produced. I have to admit that I am excited by the prospects of Midamericon. We postulate what the convention will be like--we see ourselves at a Huckster Table with door stickers, Petitions, Morale Boosters, Pamphlets, a spacy poster to back us (?); we see ourselves attending functions of the convention, meeting folks who are interested in joining together to help gain a real boost for the space program; we see ourselves attending the banquet (we thought we would go all out!) and meeting some of the exciting authors who will be attending; we see ourselves in our room for conferences with one another (we have booked what is called a 'parlor' room which has three beds which make up into couches during the day--it will be a little headquarters where we can bring people for conversation after other functions) discussing what kind of progress is being made in locating more space enthusiasts; we see ourselves having a general good time! If there are those of you out there who intend to go to Midamericon and you are interested in being part of the delegation, don't be shy! Step right up! We have by no means made any final selections.

One last item and then I'll sign off. Post Office Boxes. As you may or may not know, we currently have three post office boxes in the name of the organization: (1) San Diego, (2) San Francisco, (3) Clayton, Victoria, Australia. Since the Board of Governors tends to move from time to time, there is often need for post office boxes to be cleared. That is, the post office box in San Diego should be checked monthly for mail and mail forwarded to the appropriate places. Currently this is the only post office box needing such attendance. The box in San Francisco is being tended by the General Secretary of Antares Chamber. However, in the future (who can tell?) it may be necessary for the General Secretary to relocate, and at that time the post office box will be untended. We can, of course, drop the boxes at any time--with the exception that National Headquarters needs to be located somewhere and currently the banking and stationery proclaim San Diego as that location. Well, the truth is the story can go on, but I think it is better to stop. We are skating above the surface of the atmosphere for now, and until we feel we are sinking we will just keep on shouting Space Is The Place!!!

----The Board of Governors, U.F.O.E.S.P.